



Public Involvement Plan

**Former Amoco Refinery
Sugar Creek, Missouri**

October 2000

**Prepared for and by:
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 7
901 N. Fifth Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101**

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I. Introduction

In 1976, Congress passed the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) to regulate the generation, treatment, storage, and disposal of municipal and industrial solid and hazardous wastes that are generated across the country. The RCRA law generally mandates that the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires the investigation and cleanup, or remediation, of these hazardous releases at RCRA facilities. This is known as corrective action.

EPA is committed to involving the public in the development and implementation of solid waste, hazardous waste, and underground storage tank (UST) decision-making. EPA's central goal is to provide the public access to information and opportunity to participate. EPA regards public participation as an important activity that empowers communities to become involved in local RCRA-related activities. Through RCRA, Congress gave EPA broad authority to provide for public participation in the regulatory program. RCRA 7004 (b) directs EPA to provide for, encourage, and assist public participation in the development, revision, implementation, and enforcement of any regulation, guideline, information, or program under RCRA.

This public involvement plan identifies some community concerns regarding the ground water contamination caused by the Former Amoco Refinery (former refinery) in Sugar Creek, Missouri. The plan details specific activities that EPA will engage in to disseminate information to the Sugar Creek community and to encourage public involvement as contamination at the former refinery is addressed and remediated. The plan consists of the following sections:

- ☐ Description of Facility;
- ☐ Community Information;
- ☐ Key Community Concerns;
- ☐ Objectives of the Public Involvement Plan; and
- ☐ Public Involvement Activities

The objectives and activities discussed in this plan are based on an assessment of community concerns collected during interviews with the local officials, residents, and local community group conducted by EPA and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in March 1999.

This plan has been prepared in accordance with EPA's RCRA Public Participation Manual (1996).

II Description of Facility

A. Facility Background

Amoco Oil Company (Amoco) operated a petroleum refinery in Sugar Creek, Missouri, along the southern bank of the Missouri River east of Kansas City from 1904 to 1982. Refinery operations at the former refinery were closed in 1982, and most structures, including tanks, process equipment, and buildings, were demolished by 1989. Presently, the only active industrial operations include a bulk storage and pipeline terminal for petroleum products and an asphalt plant. In 1981, Amoco began ground water monitoring and investigation at the former refinery. Initial sampling at the former refinery found contamination of soil and ground water. Several contaminants were found, including benzene, ethylbenzene, toluene, and xylene.

B. Current Regulatory Status

In June 1989, EPA issued a RCRA Section 3008(h) administrative order on consent (Consent Order) to Amoco. The Consent Order requires Amoco (1) to conduct short-term cleanup actions, called Interim Measures, to address potential threats to human health or the environment; (2) to conduct a comprehensive investigation, called a RCRA Facility Investigation or RFI, to determine the nature and extent of releases of contaminants from the Former Refinery; and (3) to identify and evaluate alternatives for the corrective action necessary to prevent or control migration or releases of contaminants from the former refinery, called a Corrective Measures Study or CMS.

When EPA issued the Consent Order in 1989, the State of Missouri did not have authorization to operate the RCRA corrective action program. However, since then, Missouri has received corrective action authorization so EPA anticipates that the final corrective action requirements will either be incorporated into a state-issued RCRA permit or be addressed in an order issued by DNR. To facilitate this transition of corrective action responsibility to the state, in October 1997, EPA and DNR reached an agreement giving DNR the lead responsibility for technical issues concerning the corrective action. EPA continues to be the lead for enforcement of the Consent Order and has been providing oversight and technical assistance to DNR.

In February 1990, Amoco entered into an Administrative Order on Consent with DNR that specified procedures and a schedule for closure of former hazardous waste impoundments. The former surface impoundments consisted of a sludge pit, sludge pond, and wastewater lagoon located on the northeast portion of the former refinery. This action was independent of the corrective action being conducted pursuant to Amoco's Consent Order with EPA.

III. Community Information

A. Community Profile

Sugar Creek, located in northern Jackson County, is eight miles east of Kansas City, Missouri, between the City of Independence and the south bank of the Missouri River. Incorporated in 1920, Sugar Creek has a population of approximately 4,000 residents. The population is equally distributed among all age brackets with a median age of 34 years.

Year	Population
1960	2,663
1970	4,755
1980	4,305
1990	3,982
1999 (estimate)	4,024

History attributes the name Sugar Creek to Indian folklore and a creek lined with sugar maples that ran throughout the city. In 1903, Standard Oil of Indiana purchased land at the northern edge of the city. A new oil refinery, Amoco, opened in 1904, and quickly spurred growth in Sugar Creek. A number of immigrants from Eastern Europe came to work at the former refinery. By 1918, Sugar Creek had grown to more than 800 residents.

Sugar Creek is served by three school districts: Fort Osage, Independence, and Kansas City, Missouri. The Kansas City School District has a branch library within the city limits that offers a full range of services. Several community colleges and universities are less than 30 minutes away. More than 100 businesses call Sugar Creek home. The business base consists of a blend of industrial, underground warehouse, retail, and service companies. Amoco Oil Co., Lafarge Corp., Waste Management, Inc., and Carefree Industrial Park are the major employers. The labor force consists of the following:

Services	12.2%
Production/Repair	19.8%
Operator/Laborers	16.6%
Farming	1.0%
Managerial/Professional	12.2%
Technical/Admin. Support	37.4%

The following depicts the income brackets of Sugar Creek residents:

\$0-\$30,000	46.4%
\$30,001-\$50,000	37.9%
\$50,001-\$75,000	11.9%
\$75,001+	3.6%

Sugar Creek operates under the mayor and board of aldermen (board) form of government. The board consists of four aldermen - - two represent the first ward and two represent the second ward. The mayor and board each serve a two-year term. They hire the city's department heads (except for the Chief of Police who is elected to a four-year term and the city collector who is elected to a two-year term). In addition, the mayor and board are responsible for passing ordinances, adopting a budget, and appointing committees.

IV Public Involvement to Date

A. Existing Public Involvement Groups

1. C.L.E.A.N.U.P.

In the Sugar Creek community, public involvement issues concerning the former refinery has been primarily through the community group, Citizens Learning Everything about Amoco Negligence and Underground Pollution (C.L.E.A.N.U.P.). Concerned about the potential impact of the ground water contamination, Sugar Creek residents formed a citizens group called C.L.E.A.N.U.P. The intent of the citizens group is to share its concerns about the ground water contamination that may be affecting Sugar creek community members' health and property values and to encourage Amoco to expedite cleanup of the former refinery. C.L.E.A.N.U.P. activities have included meeting Sugar Creek city council members, establishing a Web site of information, notifying state and Federal elected officials, disseminating information to its membership and other interested parties, voicing concerns at city council meetings, and interviewing with the local media.

Public involvement over the last year can be characterized as significant. The work of the citizen group has served to heighten awareness of the former refinery. For more information about C.L.E.A.N.U.P., please visit its Web site at www.krohm.com/sugarcrk/index.htm

2. Amoco Coordinating Focus Group

This group, comprised of various agency and Sugar Creek community representatives, was formed by the City of Sugar Creek: 1) to improve communication among the various groups involved in the cleanup and reuse of the former refinery and; 2) to increase local elected officials and staff's understanding of the cleanup's impact on the community. To accomplish this goal, the

group is in the process of developing a communication strategy. Among group participants are City of Sugar Creek officials, EPA, DNR, ATSDR, Technical Outreach Services to Communities (TOSC), Amoco, C.L.E.A.N.U.P representatives, the City of Independence, the City of Independence Water Department, the Jackson County Health Department, Missouri Department of Transportation (MDOT), Mid America Regional Council (MARC), and three community residents who are appointed by the City of Sugar Creek's Board of Alderman to represent the general public of Sugar Creek. TOSC's role is to assist with developing and executing the communication strategy.

B. On-Going Community Involvement Activities

EPA, in coordination with DNR, has performed and will continue to perform community involvement activities. These two agencies developed and issued fact sheets to provide information to the Sugar Creek community about ongoing activities at the former refinery. In addition to this, a public availability session was held in May 1999. Representatives from EPA, DNR, Missouri Department of Health (MDOH), ATSDR, and the City of Sugar Creek were available to answer questions one-on-one about the contamination at the refinery and related health concerns. Also, in March 1999, EPA and DNR conducted 32, face-to-face community interviews with Sugar Creek residents regarding the former refinery. The interviews allowed EPA and DNR to inform and update the residents on cleanup activities and to gather information on residents' concerns. Through the interview process, EPA and DNR were able to determine the types of information residents want to receive and how EPA and DNR can best provide that information. Following the interviews, EPA and DNR analyzed the information provided by the residents and designed this public involvement plan. EPA representatives presented community advisory group information to the community at one of the city council meetings. With community advisory groups, citizens have an opportunity to directly participate in the cleanup process and become environmental decision makers by providing a forum, where representatives of diverse community interests can discuss their needs and concerns.

In addition, EPA has attended and participated in several public availability sessions and meetings of other agencies: MDOH, ATSDR, and Amoco.

C. Activities of Other Agencies Involving the Community

- DNR: DNR will continue to coordinate community involvement activities with EPA.
- ATSDR: ATSDR has met with residents, Amoco employees, concerned people, and elected officials. ATSDR also holds meetings with the community members where their environmental health concerns are heard and discussed. Additionally, community members can call ATSDR's regional staff- - 913 551-1315 or ATSDR's toll-free number at 1-888-42-ATSDR.

- MDOH: Upon receipt of an inquiry from the public, the Bureau of Cancer Control began an investigation into the possibility of cancer excess in the community in accordance with written protocol.



V. Key Community Concerns

On March 18 and 19, 1999, EPA and DNR conducted 32, face-to-face community interviews with Sugar Creek residents regarding the former refinery. The interviews allowed EPA and DNR to inform and update residents on cleanup activities at the former refinery. Through the interview process, EPA and DNR were able to determine the types of information residents want to receive and how EPA and DNR can best provide that information. The major concerns raised were: length of time of cleanup process; EPA and DNR's involvement; health effects of exposure to potential contamination due to the former refinery; lack of communication to community; and decline of property values.

A. *Length of time of cleanup process*

Residents interviewed expressed concerns regarding the length of time of cleanup process. Some residents feel strongly that the cleanup process is taking too long. These residents believe that EPA and DNR's responses have been slow; these residents want Amoco to do a better job. These residents believe cleanup should have been completed. Some believe EPA, DNR, and Amoco are doing the best they can, and these residents are confident that things are moving right along.

B. *EPA and DNR's Involvement*

Numerous residents interviewed stated that EPA and DNR need to act and react more quickly. They believe these agencies are too silent about the cleanup issue. Few are unaware of EPA and DNR's involvement. Others remarked that EPA and DNR's involvement are adequate and believed that they are doing a good job. One resident stated that the agencies are doing their job and has complete faith and trust in agencies.

C. *Health effects of exposure to potential contamination due to the former refinery*

During interviews with the residents, some referred to deaths in the community from cancer and other catastrophic illnesses. They expressed their suspicion that the deaths are connected to contamination from the former refinery. Federal and state agencies have been and are continuing to investigate health concerns and have not found a connection. Others stated that they did not believe community health was linked to contamination from the former refinery.

D. Lack of Communication to Community

The majority of residents interviewed requested EPA and DNR to provide more information and educate community about cleanup progress.

E. Decline of Property Values

Some voiced their concerns about decline of property value as a result of former refinery.

VI. Objectives of Public Involvement Plan and Public Involvement Activities

Based on the concerns voiced by the area residents and local officials during the community interviews, the following are the objectives of the public involvement plan during the corrective action process: improve accessibility of EPA personnel to the community; better educate the public on the corrective action process; provide timely information on specific activities involving the former refinery; and continue coordinating with ATSDR and MDOH to address public health concerns. EPA plans to take the following steps to achieve the objectives.



A. Designate EPA contact(s) to respond to community questions.

EPA has assigned one member of the Office of External Programs staff in the Region 7 office to be the central EPA liaison for the community (see Appendix A). This person will respond to community interests, including residents, elected officials, and the media, for information and will field telephone requests for information to other appropriate EPA personnel. This person's name and telephone number will appear on all correspondence between EPA and the community, in addition to the EPA's toll-free number. This person will also be the central contact for local media to acquire information about the former refinery.

B. Update the information in the existing repository on at least a monthly basis and maintain a current index of materials available in the repository.

In Sugar Creek, an information repository (see Appendix B) has been established to provide the community with a copy of the 1995 RCRA Facility Investigation Report and other technical reports concerning the former refinery. As new information is developed, EPA will update its information repository on at least a monthly basis, with a revised index accompanying new materials when they are added to the repository.

C. Hold public sessions and meetings

EPA, in coordination and participation of other agencies, will hold public sessions and meetings in the community. These sessions and meetings will be designed to accommodate small and large groups of the community and will consist of representatives of EPA and other

agencies who will be available to answer specific, site-cleanup questions from the community. The sessions will be held primarily in the Sugar Creek community (see Appendix B). Notices announcing these sessions and meetings will be in the fact sheets and/or published in local newspapers.

D. Continue mailing fact sheets to inform the community of major developments

EPA, in coordination with other agencies, will produce, distribute, and place information, such as fact sheets and news releases, to the Sugar Creek community. EPA will give reasonable advanced notice of major activities via fact sheets. The fact sheets will summarize cleanup efforts and other information in a clear and easy format. The fact sheets will be printed and distributed to individuals on the current mailing list. In addition, the community will be given opportunities to comment on interim measures, NPDES permit, and the corrective measure study.

E. Develop a Web site to post information about the former refinery

The Web site is another tool the community can use to find out more site information and access individual reports, as well as send questions and comments to EPA personnel.

Appendix A

List of Contacts, Interested Parties, and Media

1. Federal Officials

Senator John Ashcroft (202) 224-6154
Hart Senate Office Building Room 316 Fax: (202) 228-0998
Washington, D. C. 20510

District Office
Rivergate Business Center (816) 471-7141
600 Broadway Suite 400 Fax: (816) 471-7338
Kansas City, Missouri 64150

Senator Christopher Kit Bond (202) 224-5721
274 Russell Senate Office Building TTY/TDD: (202) 224-9901
Washington, D. C. 20510-2503 Fax: (202) 224-8149
E-mail: kit_bond@bond.state.gov

District Office
600 Broadway Suite 400 (816) 471-7141
Kansas City, Missouri 64105 Fax: (816) 471-7338

Congresswoman Karen McCarthy (202) 225-4532
1330 Longworth House Office Building Fax: (202) 225-4403
Washington, D. C. 20515

District Office
301 West Lexington Room 271 (816) 833-4545
Independence, Missouri 64050

2. State Officials

Governor Mel Carnahan (202) 624-7720
400 North Capitol Street Suite 376 Fax: (202) 624-5855
Washington, D. C. 20001

District Office
615 East 13th Street 5th Floor (816) 889-3186
Kansas City, Missouri 64106 Fax: (816) 889-3177

State Senator Ronnie DePasco (573) 751-3074
Missouri Senate Fax: (573) 751-2745
State Capitol Building Room 321
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
E-mail: rdepasco@services.state.mo.us

State Senator Francis Flotron, Jr. (573) 751-2371
Missouri Senate Fax: (573) 751-2745
Senate Capitol Building Room 331
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
E-mail: fflotron@services.state.mo.us

State Representative Dennis Bonner (573) 751-5701
Missouri House of Representatives Fax: (573) 526-7337
201 West Capitol Avenue Room 409A
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
E-mail: dbonner@services.state.mo.us

State Representative Annie Reinhart (573) 751-1218
Missouri House of Representatives Fax: (573) 526-0539
201 West Capitol Avenue Room 116A1
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
E-mail: areinhart@services.state.mo.us

Steve Mahfood, Director 1-800-334-6946
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
205 Jefferson Street
P. O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Maureen Dempsey, Director (573) 751-6001
Missouri Department of Health
920-930 Wildwood Street Fax: (573) 751-6041
P. O. Box 570
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

3. Local Officials

Stanley Salva, Mayor (816) 252-4400 Ext. 32
City of Sugar Creek
103 South Sterling Avenue
P. O. Box 8537
Sugar Creek, Missouri 64054-0537

Joseph Kenney, Alderman 1st Ward
City of Sugar Creek
103 South Sterling Avenue
P. O. Box 8537
Sugar Creek, Missouri 64054-0537 (816) 252-4400 Ext. 30

Mark A. O'Renicks, Alderman 1st Ward
City of Sugar Creek
103 South Sterling Avenue
P. O. Box 8537
Sugar Creek, Missouri 64054-0537 (816) 252-4400 Ext. 30

Dennis R. Onka, Alderman 2nd Ward
City of Sugar Creek
103 South Sterling Avenue
P. O. Box 8537
Sugar Creek, Missouri 64054-0537 (816) 252-4400 Ext. 30

Stanley J. Sagehorn, Alderman 2nd Ward
City of Sugar Creek
103 South Sterling Avenue
P. O. Box 8537
Sugar Creek, Missouri 64054-0537 (816) 252-4400 Ext. 30

4. Citizen Group

C.L.E.A.N.U.P.
www.krohnm.com/sugarcreek/index.htm

Janet Hunter, President
4106 N. River Blvd.
Sugar Creek, Missouri 64054 (816) 252-5639

5. Media

Newspapers

Kansas City Kansan
901 N. Eighth Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66117-5002
(913) 371-4300

Kansas City Star
1729 Grand Blvd.
Kansas City, Missouri 64108
(816) 234-4141

The Examiner
P. O. Box 459
Independence, Missouri 64051
(816) 254-8600

The Blue Springs Examiner
P. O. Box 1057
Blue Springs, Missouri 64013
(816) 229-9161

Olathe Daily News
514 S. Kansas Avenue
Olathe, Kansas 66051
(913) 764-2211

Star-Herald
P. O. Box 379
Belton, Missouri 64012
(816) 331-5353

Sun Chronicle
7373 W. 107th Street
Overland Park, Kansas 66212
(913) 381-1010

Liberty Tribune-News/Raytown Post
104 N. Main Street
Liberty, Missouri 64068

Journal Herald
11004 Johnson Drive
Shawnee, Kansas 66203
(913) 631-2550

Jackson County Advocate
P. O. Box 620
Grandview, Missouri 64030
(816) 761-6200

Lee's Summit Journal
P. O. Box 387
Lee's Summit, Missouri 64063
(816) 524-2345

Television Stations

WDAF-TV 4
Signal Hill
Kansas City, Missouri 64108
(816) 753-4567

KMBC-TV 9
1049 Central Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64105
(816) 221-9999

KSHB-TV 41
4720 Oak Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64112
(816) 932-4185

KCTV 5
P. O. Box 5555
Kansas City, Missouri 64109
(913) 677-5555

KCPT-TV 19
123 E. 31st Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64108
(816) 756-3580

KSMO-TV 62
10 E. Cambridge Cir. Ste. 300
Kansas City, Kansas 66103
(913) 621-6262

Radio Stations

KCAZ /KCNW
4535 Metropolitan Ave.
Mission, Kansas 66106
(913) 677-2247

KCCV
10550 Barkley Street
Overland Park, Kansas
(913) 642-7600

KBEQ/KFKF
4717 Grand Avenue Ste. 640
Kansas City, Missouri 64112
(816) 531-2535

KCUR
4825 Troost Avenue Ste. 202
Kansas City, Missouri 64110
(816) 235-1551

KFEZ
8826 Sante Fe Drive Ste. 300
Overland Park, Kansas 66212
(913) 341-5552

KLJC
15800 Calvary Road
Kansas City, Missouri 64147-1341
(816) 331-8700

KCTE
10841 E. 28th Street
Independence, Missouri
(816) 254-1073

KEXS
201 Industrial Park Rd.
Excelsior Springs, Missouri 64024
(816) 630-1090

KKFI
P. O. Box 10255
Kansas City, Missouri 64171
(816) 931-3122

KPRT
11131 Colorado Avenue
Kansas City, Missouri 64137
(816) 763-2040

EPA

Robert Aston
Remedial Project Manager
Air, RCRA, Toxics Division
EPA Region 7
901 N. Fifth Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101
(913) 551-7003 or
Toll-Free: 1 (800) 223-0425

Shawntell Crossgrow
Community Involvement Coordinator
Office of External Programs
EPA Region 7
901 N. Fifth Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101
(913) 551-7003 or
Toll-Free: 1 (800) 223-0425

DNR

Brian McCurren
DNR
Hazardous Waste Program
P. O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
(573) 751-3553
or (800) 361-4827

Joe Gassner
DNR
Hazardous Waste Program
P. O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
(573) 751-3553
or (800) 361-4827

Appendix B
List of Information Repository Locations and Public Meeting Facilities

1). Information Repository Location

Kansas City, Missouri Public Library
Sugar Creek Branch
102 South Sterling Avenue
Sugar Creek, Missouri 64054
(816) 701-3645
Contact: Tammy Welch

2). Public Meeting Facilities

Mike Onka Memorial Building
11520 Putnam Drive
Sugar Creek, Missouri 64054
(816) 252-4400 Ext. 21
Contact: Linda Jasso

Lanard Hall
101 S. Sterling Terrace
Sugar Creek, Missouri 64054
(816) 254-1640